

Message Text

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PAGE 01 REYKJA 00270 240932Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 AID-05 SS-15 STR-04
ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 /109 W
-----240947 024864 /15

R 231238Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7052

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USDEL MTN GENEVA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

UNCLAS REYKJAVIK 0270

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, IC

SUBJECT: ICELAND REVISES TARIFF SCHEDULE

1. LAST MONTH THE ICELANDIC GOVERNMENT PUBLISHED A REVISED TARIFF SCHEDULE IN ICELANDIC. A PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION OF THE 200 PLUS PAGE DOCUMENT SUGGESTS ITS PURPOSE IS TO EXTEND THE TARIFF CUTTING SCHEDULE EARLIER ADOPTED IN CONNECTION WITH ICELAND'S AGREEMENT WITH THE EC. IN ITS BUDGET PRESENTATION, THE GOI NOTED THE CHANGES WOULD REDUCE TARIFF REVENUES BY \$3 MILLION.

2. MOST OF THE TARIFF REVISIONS ARE DOWNWARD AND WHERE SEPARATE SCHEDULES EXIST FOR THE EC, DUTIES FOR OTHER COUNTRIES ALTHOUGH LOWERED REMAIN PROPORTIONALLY HIGHER THAN DUTIES FOR EC COUNTRIES. IN MANY CASES DUTIES FOR EC COUNTRIES WILL BE ZERO BY 1980, BUT SOME DUTY REMAINS THEREAFTER FOR NON-EC COUNTRIES.

RELATIVELY FEW CHANGES WERE MADE TO REDUCE DUTIES ON IMPORTED ITEMS TO ZERO FOR ALL COUNTRIES. THUS
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THE SYSTEM IS VERY DISCRIMINATORY AGAINST U.S. EXPORTS. MOREOVER, NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGES WERE MADE IN AREAS OF MOST POTENTIAL BENEFIT TO THE U.S., NAMELY, ELECTRICAL AND NON-ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, AND TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT.

3. THE TARIFF SCHEDULE IS AVAILABLE ONLY IN ICELANDIC.

BECAUSE IT WILL HAVE TO BE REVISED AGAIN THIS YEAR TO CONFORM TO THE BRUSSELS TARIFF NOMENCLATURE. NO ENGLISH VERSION WILL BE MADE. MIN COMMERCE OFFICIALS SAID IT WILL BE NOTIFIED TO EFTA, EEC AND GATT WITH BRIEF EXPLANATION IN ENGLISH. TO THE EXTENT IT FOLLOWS THE ENGLISH 1974 SCHEDULE (WHICH WAS PREVIOUSLY SENT DEPT.), NUMBERS CAN USUALLY BE MATCHED TO IDENTIFY ITEMS. HOWEVER, MANY NEW SUBCATEGORIES HAVE BEEN ADDED. TWO COPIES OF THE SCHEDULE WILL BE SENT EB/TA UNDER SEPARATE COVER. CHANGES HAVE BEEN NOTED ON THESE COPIES WITH APPROPRIATE EXPLANATION.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DOCUMENTS, REORGANIZATIONS, TARIFF SCHEDULES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: ICELAND REVISES TARIFF SCHEDULE
TAGS: ETRD, IC, GATT
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